Fiscal Estimate - 2009 Session

☑ Orig	inal	Update	ed		Corrected		Supp	lemental
LRB Num	ber 09-42	51/3		Introd	luction N	lumber	SB-63	1
Description submission o	f biological spe	cimens for de	oxyribonucl	eic acid	analysis.			
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Agency/Prep	ared By		Autho	orized S	ignature			Date
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives SPD 3/31/2010

LRB Number 09-4251/3	Introduction Number	SB-631	Estimate Type	Original
Description				
submission of biological specim	ens for deoxyribonucleic a	cid analysis	i.	

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The State Public Defender (SPD) is statutorily authorized and required to appoint attorneys to represent indigent defendants in criminal and certain commitment proceedings. The SPD plays a major role in ensuring that the Wisconsin justice system complies with the right to counsel provided by both the state and federal constitutions. Any legislation has the potential to increase SPD costs if it creates a new criminal offense, expands the definition of an existing criminal offense, or increases the penalties for an existing offense.

Although this bill would not create a new crime, it will likely lead to additional misdemeanors being charged for intentionally failing to comply with a requirement to provide a DNA sample, as the requirement to provide the sample would no longer expire when a person completes serving probation, a sentence, or a delinquency disposition or is released from confinement. Assuming this change would apply retroactively to persons who have already completed their sentences, we expect the increased charges would decline once the initial backlog associated with uncollected specimens was handled. The SPD's average cost to provide representation with a private bar attorney in a misdemeanor case is \$214.11, calculated on the basis of the SPD's average cost per case in fiscal year 2009.

Indirectly, the additional DNA samples collected under this bill would likely result in an indeterminate number of criminal charges based DNA matches to evidence in unsolved cases. Some of those defendants would likely qualify for an SPD appointment.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications